

GAMEDAYGUIDE

www.kstatecollegian.com | Friday, October 21, 2011 | K-State vs. Kansas

With fuse lit, K-State offense looks to explode against KU

Corbin Mcguire
staff writer

The K-State offense has not been known for its explosiveness all season. In the first half of the Texas Tech game, the Wildcats were about as explosive as a firecracker with no fuse.

The offense tallied 94 total yards in the first half and had less possession time than the Red Raiders, a statistic K-State has relied upon all year to in order to win. The Wildcats' defense was consequently on the field more in the first half and gave up over 300 yards of offense in the process. The Wildcats managed to stay within 8 points going into halftime, but Bill Snyder and his team knew they could not win the game unless they got back to doing the fundamental things that got them the undefeated record they sought to protect. The ending statistics would prob-



ably not indicate the actual outcome but the Wildcats once again found a way to win, led by an efficient and turnover free second-half by the offense.

The Wildcats found their fuse at half-time and the offense let the Red Raiders know with an explosive opening drive. Collin Klein led the Wildcats on an eight-play, 77-yard touchdown drive to open the second half. The Wildcats mixed up the play-calling to start the half by passing the ball on the first four plays to keep the Red Raiders from crowding the line of scrimmage. The

"I think the very positive thing is when we have had our backs against the wall, and absolutely have to do it, we have been able to do it. You do not like to run the risk and roll the dice, but that is always going to take place. You would like to have some consistency about it, and we have not had that."

Bill Snyder
head coach

Wildcats 22 yards in three plays to score and make the score 41-31.

The offense's second-half production proved to be enough as the defense staved off a late comeback by the Red Raiders to secure the victory. Klein led the offense going 12-16 passing for 146 yards and one touchdown while rushing for 110 yards and three touchdowns on 23 attempts. The offense looks to improve its consistency against its rival, the Kansas Jayhawks, in this Saturday's game in Lawrence. Snyder said his offense has played well when they needed to but need to bring their best more consistently.

"I think the very positive thing is when we have had our backs against the wall, and absolutely have to do it, we have been able to do it," Snyder said of his offense's production. "You do not like to run the risk and roll the dice, but that is always going to take place. You would like to have some consistency about it, and we have not had that."

According to *rivals.com*, the Jayhawks enter the game giving up the most points per game with 49 and the most yards per game with 565, in the FBS. The statistics lean toward an opportunity for the Wildcats to put it all together on offense. Snyder believes his team will not take the Jayhawks lightly despite their defensive struggles.

"I know that they are intelligent young guys," Snyder said. "I know they understand that anyone can get anybody at any time and all those things that go along with it."

Running back Angelo Pease had a similar approach.

"It won't be an easy game," Pease said. "It's a rivalry game, so we're going to get their best shot."

The Wildcats are going for their third-straight victory over the Jayhawks in hopes of retaining the Governor's Cup in as many years. The game is scheduled for kickoff at 11 a.m. and will be televised on Fox Sports Network.

Logan M. Jones | Collegian

Junior running back **Angelo Pease** breaks away for a run in a game earlier this season. Pease has stepped in to help John Hubert and Collin Klein in the rushing game.

BY THE NUMBERS

Key numbers to think of during Saturday's game

6
-the amount of yards the Jayhawks gained on Oklahoma in the second half After battling the Sooners in a competitive first half, the Jayhawks were not able to muster anything against the Sooner defense. As bad as the Jayhawks have been this year, the offense, for the most part, has not played that badly. However, after a couple of fluke touchdowns against the Sooners, the Jayhawks were unable to do anything. The Jayhawks' offense must put points on the board if they are going to stay in the game at all against the Wildcats.

12
-the amount of years since the Wildcats have gotten off to a 7-0 start The Wildcats started off the 1999 season 9-0 en route to an 11-1 season and a win in the Holiday Bowl. With a win on Saturday, the Wildcats will be 7-0 in their big showdown with Oklahoma next weekend in Manhattan. The Wildcats cannot overlook the Jayhawks, but a chance for a 7-0 start is very possible.

52
-the amount of points that the Wildcats beat the Jayhawks by last year The Wildcats came out last year and absolutely dominated the Jayhawks from the very beginning of the game. While it is hard to see the Wildcats doing this again, with the way that they have been playing, they should be able to leave Lawrence with a win.

100
-the yards on Tyler Lockett's kick return for a touchdown against the Red Raiders Texas Tech had just taken a 14-7 lead against the Wildcats and it appeared that they were starting to seize control of the game. However, Lockett's kick return was able to change the whole dynamic of the game. The kick return gave the team life as they were struggling early in the game on offense. Lockett and the rest of the return game will come in handy if they can make some plays and make the field shorter for Collin Klein and the Wildcat offense.

455
-the amount of yards by Jayhawks' leading running back James Sims For the most part, the Jayhawks' offense has been pretty effective. It has been the defense that has let the Jayhawks down. Sims is a strong and elusive running back that is patient and lets the play develop before he makes his decision on what he is going to do with the ball. The Wildcats will need to make sure that they keep playing like they have been and keep tackling as a team, because if not, Sims has the capabilities of breaking some tackles and making some big plays.

627
-the amount of yards the Jayhawks have given up on average during their four game losing streak The Jayhawks' defense has been downright atrocious thus far on the season. They have shown that they struggle to stop both the pass as well as the run. The Jayhawks must build off last week's slight improvement and continue to get better on defense. If not, the Wildcats might have a field day on the Jayhawks with the running and the passing game.

94
-the number of K-State defensive tackle Ralph Guidry Guidry stepped up late in the game against the Texas Tech Red Raiders. In the game, Guidry was able to block two field goals at a time in the game when it appeared that Texas Tech was gaining momentum. The Wildcats will root for Guidry to dominate the line of scrimmage and to continue to make big plays for them on the defensive line.

-Compiled by Mark Kern

Defense hopes to remain focused in Saturday's game

Sean Frye
staff writer

The Wildcats just faced four of the most explosive offenses in the country and came away with wins in all four games. Now the defense gets to face the Kansas Jayhawks, a team that has struggled mightily all year long on both sides of the ball.

While it is easy for fans and the media to overlook the lowly Jayhawks and see No. 1 Oklahoma looming around the corner next week, the defense this week is focused on one thing: beating KU.

"We are just taking the aspect that they did play Oklahoma so close, so they are improving on the season," defensive end Jordan Voelker said. "That is a tribute to them. They did a good job against Oklahoma, and they are a great team. I think that just keeps us in focus there."

"This is a big game for us ... It is just the rivalry between the two schools. It is the talk of the neighborhood, the talk of the towns. It is just a big thing to all Kansas kids."

Jordan Voelker
defensive end

The Jayhawks are the current bottom-feeders of the Big 12. After winning their first two games, they have dropped their last four contests to Georgia Tech, Texas Tech, Oklahoma State and Oklahoma.

However, that does not discount the fact that their offense has the ability to make big plays. They are the No. 41 team in the FBS in total offense, 53 spots higher than K-State. They average 425.17 yards per game, with the rushing attack being the feature of the offense. Quarterback Jordan Webb has also been impressive for the Jayhawks.

So that means the K-State defense cannot take this week off if they want to beat the Jayhawks like they are favored to do so.

"We have to come out each week," defensive back Nigel Malone said. "You definitely cannot sleep on this team. They have a lot of good athletes as well. They have had a lot of close games. I know that they held (Texas) Tech to I think 20-0 at some point in time. So you cannot sleep on a team like this. Coach has preached to come out and play the same way."

One of the primary motivational factors this week to keep the team focused is the simple fact that this week is "KU-Week." The Sunflower Showdown crowns the top college football team in the state of Kansas every year, and the Wildcats want nothing more than to bring home the Governor's Cup.

"This is a big game for us. It has been growing up," Voelker said. "You just grow up with this atmosphere. It is just the rivalry between the two schools. It is the talk of the neighborhood, the talk of the towns. It is just a big thing to all Kansas kids."

One statistic that has also begun to motivate the K-State defense is the fact that they have intercepted every single quar-



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Wildcat defensive back, **Randall Evans**, wraps up a Baylor running back while **David Garrett** closes in to assist earlier this season at Bill Snyder Family Stadium.

terback they have faced this year. In all six games, the Wildcats have recorded at least one interception, including being the first team all year to pick off Robert Griffin III against Baylor and stealing away three passes from Seth Doege last week against Texas Tech.

"We need turnovers,"

Malone said. "That's the important part of the game for us."

The top-ranked team in the country is just a week away for the Wildcats, and with rumors of ESPN's College Gameday and K-State alumnus and "Modern Family" actor Eric Stonestreet all crashing Manhattan should both teams be

undefeated, it is hard for this defensive unit to stay focused on the task at hand. That task is to go down to Lawrence and beat the Jayhawks.

"It's just another game for us," Malone said. "We aren't going to get too involved in the hoo-rah and stuff, we're just going to come out and play."

GAMEDAYGUIDE

SCOUTING REPORT

JORDAN WEBB
QUARTERBACK # 2

Webb has played well on the season. He has a little Todd Reesing in his game as he is able to prolong plays and give his receivers a little more time to get open. Webb will look to get the ball out quickly and give his receivers a chance to make plays. If Webb is able to have a good game, then they could hang around with the Wildcats.

D.J. BRESHEARS
WIDE RECEIVER # 20

Breshears is Webb's number one target. Breshears is capable of turning a short pass into a long touchdown at any time. Not only will Breshears line-up as a receiver, he will also line-up in the backfield sometimes as long as return kickoffs. Look for Nigel Malone and David Garrett to guard him during the game.

STEVEN JOHNSON
LINEBACKER # 12

Johnson had a monster game against the Oklahoma Sooners last Saturday. Johnson ended the game with 13 tackles and his first interception. He will be a key as the Jayhawks will try and slow down the Wildcats good running game. The Jayhawks played a lot better against Oklahoma than against the Cowboys of Oklahoma State the week before, and the Jayhawks will hope Johnson has the same type of game on Saturday against the Wildcats.

O = OFFENSE
X = DEFENSE

K-State to face continually improving KU team in Showdown

Sean Frye
staff writer

It's KU Week, and the No. 11 K-State Wildcats are headed down to Lawrence for the second straight year to take on the Jayhawks in the annual Sunflower Showdown. Both teams have had the opposite result in their last four games. K-State has won all four, while KU has lost their last four.

The Jayhawks enter Saturday's game with a 2-4 overall record and a 0-3 mark in Big 12 play. Their two wins came during the first two games of the season against FCS opponent McNeese State and then Northern Illinois in the second week of the year.

Since then, the Jayhawks have lost four straight games at the hands of Georgia Tech, Texas Tech, Oklahoma State and Oklahoma. In those four losses, the Jayhawks are being outscored 228-103.

Last year, it was K-State's defense that struggled. Now this year the bug that plagued the Wildcats traveled east and has infected the Jayhawks. KU currently has the last ranked total defense in the entire FBS, giving up 565 yards of offense per game, 31 yards more than New Mexico, the second worst total defense.

However, the Jayhawks held the No. 1 Sooners to under 50

points and showed plenty of promise in their 47-17 loss last Saturday, where they forced three turnovers.

"They did a good job of playing with great heart," Jayhawks' head coach Turner Gill said during a teleconference on Monday. "They played with some belief and confidence, particularly on the defensive side of the ball. The guys are competing and we're looking to improve our execution."

For Saturday, the Jayhawks' defense's main goal will be to stop quarterback Collin Klein, who has been one of the most impressive quarterbacks in the nation all year.

"We know he's going to do

a good job of running, so we have to tackle well," Gill said. "We have to have a lot of people around the ball when he has it so we have to get him down on the first hit. The first thing you have to do is stop him on the run."

Offensively, quarterback Jordan Webb is the leader for the Jayhawks. He has passed for 1238 yards on the season so far in games where he is being forced to pass due to playing from behind the majority of the time.

"What I see is that he is a very accurate thrower," head coach Bill Snyder said. "He's been put in a lot of situations where he's throwing (the ball) and even the

guys in the cheap seats know he's throwing it. He made some plays against Oklahoma that I thought were outstanding. He's playing very well."

From the rushing attack, James Sims and Darrian Miller have combined for 733 yards rushing for a team that has the 23rd-ranked rushing game in the country.

However, the Jayhawks' defense has been in absolute shambles all year. Not only are they the worst total defense in the country, but they allow 49 points per game as well, which also is the worst in the FBS.

The worst of the worst came two weeks ago against Oklahoma State, when the Jayhawks

trailed the Cowboys 56-7 at halftime and the Cowboys subbed in their backup quarterback before the first half was even over.

Senior linebacker Steven Johnson leads the team with 63 tackles, 23 more than the second-best tackler on the team. He has been one of the few bright spots for the Jayhawks all year.

KU holds a 65-38-5 overall record advantage in the Sunflower Showdown, but the Wildcats are not only the reigning champions of the Governor's Cup, but have won 14 of the last 18 meetings. The Wildcats are heavy favorites, but with rivalries, anything is possible.

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Week 6 games to watch: Rivalries renewed across the country

Mark Kern
assistant sports editor



OKLAHOMA STATE @ MISSOURI

This matchup features two teams that are going in two completely different directions. The Cowboys are ranked fourth in the BCS and have a legitimate shot to compete for the national title as the Tigers are battling to just stay in bowl contention. The Cowboys are led by quarterback Brandon Weeden and wide receiver Justin Blackmon, who form one of the most dynamic duos in all of the country. The Tigers must be ready to stop the high-octane offense of the Cowboys if they are going to have a chance for the upset. The Tigers are coming off of a 52-17 victory over the Iowa State Cyclones at home in Columbia last Saturday. Missouri plays a complete game and if they play like they did against the Cyclones, then there is a definite possibility that the Tigers could pull the upset over the heavily favored Cowboys.



WASHINGTON @ STANFORD

The Huskies were supposed to struggle on offense with quarterback Jake Locker taking his talents to the NFL's Tennessee Titans. However, Keith Price has stepped in and been every bit as effective, if not more effective than Locker was last season. So far on the season, Price has thrown for 21 touchdowns, good for second in the country. Price has teamed up with superstar running back Chris Polk to help lead one of the most explosive offenses in all of the country. The Husky offense will be counted on as they go up against the Stanford Cardinal and their Heisman trophy candidate quarterback Andrew Luck. Luck, the preseason favorite for the Heisman trophy, has done nothing to hurt his chances thus far in the season. So far, Luck has thrown for 18 touchdowns and three interceptions going along with a completion percentage of 72 percent. However, the key to the game may lie in Cardinal defense's hands. Stanford has only allowed 11.2 points per game, good for the fifth least amount in the country. The Cardinal have done an outstanding job of stopping the opposing offense, but this will be their biggest challenge so far. The Huskies have looked very good since losing to Nebraska 51-38. Both teams are undefeated in Pac-12 play, and if Price is able to have a big game, the Huskies could leave Palo Alto with a victory.



AUBURN @ LSU

The defending national champions travel to Death Valley needing to win to have any chance of defending their SEC championship. Auburn is coming off a victory over the Florida Gators at home last Saturday. However, Auburn will be switching their quarterbacks as they take on the number one ranked LSU Tigers. Clint Moseley will take over for Barrett Trotter, in hope that he will be able to spark an offense that has not been able to produce near like it did last year when Cam Newton was running the show. Moseley will look to lean on a great running back duo of Michael Dyer and Onterio McCalebb to help ease the pressure off of the passing attack of Auburn. LSU will enter the game with a defense that has been flat out dominant on the season. Led by cornerback Tyrann Mathieu, the defense of the LSU Tigers will be looking to get after Moseley on the Auburn offense, looking to force Moseley to throw the ball down the field. LSU on offense is being led by quarterbacks Jordan Jefferson and Jarrett Lee. So far, the duo has played very well and kept the offense playing good football. If the LSU offense is able to keep moving the ball like they have, they will be very tough to beat. The defense is one of the best in all the land, and they figure to give Auburn a tough time when they have the ball.

COLLEGIAN STAFF PICK 'EM



Georgia Tech
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K-State
Missouri
LSU
Wisconsin

Caroline Sweeney
managing editor
(26-12)



GEORGIA TECH @ MIAMI


The Yellow Jackets are coming off a disappointing loss to unranked Virginia 24-21 on the road. In the game, quarterback Tevin Washington was only able to connect two out of eight passes for 24 yards and two interceptions. The inability of the Yellow Jackets to be able to pass the ball against the Cavaliers was the key in the game. Up next for the Yellow Jackets is a team from Miami that seems to be hitting their strides. The Hurricanes are coming off a very impressive victory on the road against the North Carolina Tar Heels. The Hurricanes were led by Jacory Harris who went for 20-30 with 267 yards and three touchdowns. The key statistic from the game was that Harris did not throw an interception. When Harris is in control of the offense and not turning the ball over, the Hurricanes have the capability to defeat any team in the country. The key to the game will be if the Hurricanes are able to take care of the ball and not give an explosive Georgia Tech offense the opportunity to have the ball. If Harris plays the way he did last week against the Tar Heels, then there is a very good chance that the Hurricanes will defeat Georgia Tech.



WISCONSIN @ MICHIGAN STATE


The Badgers thus far this season have looked as good as anyone in the country. A lot of the credit has to be given to quarterback Russell Wilson. Wilson has thrown for 14 touchdowns and only one interception and has been able to help the Badgers be a more complete offense. Running back Montee Ball has complemented the passing attack in tune to 647 yards and 16 touchdowns so far. Wisconsin's explosive offense has made them a legitimate national title contender. However, the Michigan State defense might just be the team that gives the Badgers offense fits. The Spartans enter the game ranked as the number two ranked defense in the country giving up only 186.2 yards per game. The Spartans defense was especially dominant last week against rival Michigan, only giving up 14 points, and also taking back an interception for a touchdown right when Michigan appeared to be making it a game. If the Spartans are able to slow down the Wisconsin offense, then Kirk Cousins and the rest of the Spartan offense might just be able to pull the upset over the number four ranked Badgers.

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assistant sports editor
(26-12)

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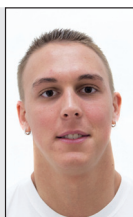
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MATCHING UP

K-STATE RUSH OFFENSE VS. KANSAS RUSH DEFENSE

K-State has been successful running the ball against all of its opponents this season, and when the Wildcats roll into Lawrence to face the 116th ranked rush defense, the success will likely continue. After putting up 193 yards on the ground against Texas Tech last week, quarterback Collin Klein and running back John Hubert will be the keys to success for the Wildcats. However, the Jayhawk defense played well against Oklahoma for most of the game last week, something that is sure to raise the confidence of a struggling team. The only question now is will it be enough?

ADVANTAGE: K-STATE



KANSAS PASS OFFENSE VS. K-STATE PASS DEFENSE

Kansas might not be the best team throwing the ball, but it definitely isn't the worst either. Led by wide receiver DJ Beshears and tight end Tim Biere, the Jayhawks have shown that they can score by throwing the ball. K-State is coming off a shaky performance against Texas Tech after allowing 461 yards through the air. Fortunately for the Wildcats, the defense regrouped at halftime and shut down the Red Raiders in the second half. K-State has had an interception in each of its games this season, picking off three passes last week. It will be a struggle for the Jayhawks to find much success against this confident Wildcat secondary.

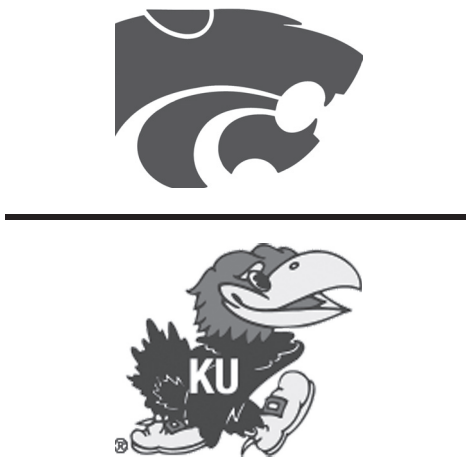
ADVANTAGE: K-STATE



KANSAS RUSH OFFENSE VS. K-STATE RUSH DEFENSE

The Jayhawks have been even more successful on the ground this season than the Wildcats, ranking 23rd when running the ball. However, K-State will present a stiff challenge when its 16th-ranked rushing defense takes the field. Led by sophomore running back James Sims, Kansas has a variety of threats running the ball, with three players averaging 40 or more yards per game. The key to success for the Jayhawks on Saturday will rest on the shoulders of the running backs as they go up against one of the best rush defenses in the nation.

ADVANTAGE: NEITHER



K-STATE SPECIAL TEAMS VS. KANSAS SPECIAL TEAMS

Last week against Texas Tech, the special teams unit for K-State played one of its best games in recent history. Two blocked field goals on top of a 100-yard kickoff return headlined the impressive performance. Though kicker Anthony Cantele struggled at times, the coverage units continue to show speed and phenomenal tackling ability. Kansas kicker Alex Mueller has a strong leg and is excellent on kickoffs, however, he has hit only half of his field goals this season. The return and coverage teams have struggled at times for the Jayhawks, and will need to be at their best on Saturday.

ADVANTAGE: K-STATE



K-STATE PASS OFFENSE VS. KANSAS PASS DEFENSE

While K-State certainly hasn't put up jaw-dropping numbers passing the ball, the Wildcats have the talent at the receiver position to make things difficult for Kansas. The Jayhawks struggle even more when trying to defend the pass, placing second to last nationally. Led by junior safety Bradley McDougald, the Kansas secondary has allowed opponents an average of 338 yards per game through the air. Though the Wildcats likely won't replicate those kind of numbers, they will have the opportunity to find success throwing the ball.

ADVANTAGE: K-STATE




INTANGIBLES

The Wildcats are favored for the first time in five weeks, and after finally receiving the respect players have been demanding, K-State will have plenty of motivation. Although the Wildcats could potentially have a top-10 matchup with Oklahoma in two weeks, Bill Snyder will make sure his team understands the importance of the Sunflower Showdown. If the Wildcats are able to grab an early lead, the crowd at Memorial Stadium will not be a factor for long.

ADVANTAGE: K-STATE



FINAL SCORE PREDICTION: 35-17 K-STATE

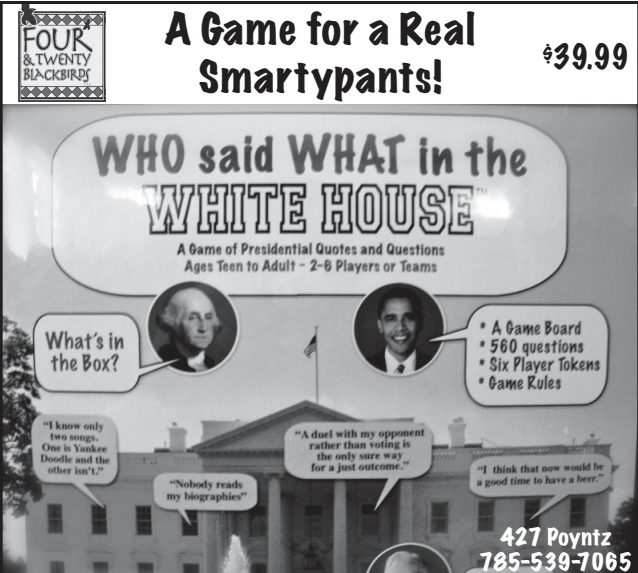


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GAMEDAYGUIDE

Under review



Logan M. Jones | Collegian
K-State head football coach **Bill Snyder** talks to a game official after a play was reviewed during the Baylor game earlier this season. The Wildcats travel to Lawrence this Saturday to take part in the “Sunflower Showdown” against Kansas.

Hesiman watch



- 1. QUARTERBACK RUSSELL WILSON, WISCONSIN:**
No other player has made a bigger impact on his team than Wilson has on the Badgers. Wisconsin was expected to contend for a Big Ten title, but now with Wilson, the Badgers are squarely in the national title hunt. Wilson's ability to make plays with his arm complements the outstanding running game led by running back Montee Ball. The Badgers are entering the heart of their schedule as they will be in East Lansing, Mich., on Saturday night to face an extremely tough Michigan State Spartan team.
- 2. RUNNING BACK TRENT RICHARDSON, ALABAMA:**
Every Heisman winner


- seems to have at least one amazing highlight-reel play. Richardson's ridiculous move on an Ole Miss defender last Saturday might be that type of play. Richardson has been a workhorse, especially as of late, and with Alabama's continued wins, his chances of winning the Heisman Trophy only increase.
- 3. QUARTERBACK ANDREW LUCK, STANFORD:**
Luck is the most ready player in the NFL and has been playing like it. Luck was overlooked early in the season because the Cardinals have not played a great schedule so far. However, with No. 22 Washington coming to Stanford on Saturday, Luck is going to start getting plenty of opportunities to show the nation that he truly is the best player in college football and that he deserves the Heisman Trophy.
- 4. QUARTERBACK LANDRY JONES, OKLAHOMA:**
Recently, Jones has been
- on fire and has teamed up with wide receiver Ryan Broyles to form quite the duo. As long as the Sooners keep winning, Jones is going to keep moving up in the rankings and will be in New York with a legitimate shot of winning the whole thing.

Now is the time when these players are going to start separating themselves from each other and we will truly see which player deserves the Heisman Trophy. Besides being extremely talented players, all of these teams are also in the national title race.

This is something that will play a huge factor down the stretch. Whichever player is able to lead his team to victory in their big game will probably be the one holding the trophy in New York as well.

No matter what, the race is about to get very entertaining.
- Mark Kern is a senior in journalism and mass communications. Please send all comments to sports@pub.ksu.edu.**



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GAMEDAYGUIDE

Consistency easy to find in Lawrence

Corbin McGuire
staff writer

K-State will head to Lawrence on Saturday to try and keep its undefeated record. The Wildcats are coming off a win at Texas Tech despite having substantially inferior statistics, but look to take down its rival, the Kansas Jayhawks, in a more controlling fashion. The Wildcats dominated the Jayhawks in the last meeting between the two schools, winning 59-7 to keep control of the Governor's Cup. The rivalry between the Jayhawks and Wildcats goes back many years, but the history of Lawrence precedes any of the universities' athletics.

According to the official web site for the city of Lawrence, the New England Emigrant Aid Society founded the city in 1854 in order to keep the territory free from slavery. Lawrence is said to be one of a small group of cities in the U.S. that were founded solely for political reasons.

Dr. James Naismith, the man that invented the game of basketball, coached for the Jayhawks and is to this day KU's only basketball coach with a losing record. He is buried in Lawrence, where he lived and coached most of his grown life.

The city is also the childhood home of the famous writer and poet Langston Hughes. Some say that Hughes' novel "Not Without Laughter" is based on his time in Lawrence.

Lawrence's downtown area, located on Massachusetts Street, offers a variety of options for anyone seeking fine dining, art, historic landmarks or any of the frequent events held downtown. Any traveling fans arriving early to the game and looking for a place to eat breakfast should check out the highly recommended Milton's Café, which is located on Massachusetts Street, or Mass Street, as

many locals call it. Fans looking for some good food after the game should also check out Jefferson's, which is also located on Mass Street. Jefferson's is famous for its mouth-watering burgers, fresh gulf oysters and finger-licking wings.

Lawrence is also known for the uniquely American street names that make up a majority of the city. Massachusetts Street was designated the main street because Lawrence's founders were originally from Massachusetts. Secretary of the NEAS, Dr. Thomas Webb, described how the streets were named in a story from the Herald of Freedom newspaper in 1855.

"The streets, 32 in number running north and south, are named after the several states of the Union," Webb said. "Thirteen of the streets in the eastern part of the city are named after the thirteen original states. The balance of the streets west are named after the remaining nineteen states, in order in which they were admitted."

Webb failed to mention that Georgia was never added and Carolina Street was not added until much later. The Lawrence Journal-World pointed out in a 1996 story that Lawrence was missing nine states in all: Alaska, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, Washington and Wyoming.

Historically, the Jayhawks lead the head-to-head series 65-38-5 but Bill Snyder is 8-0 against KU when K-State is ranked. The Wildcats are currently ranked 11th, 12th and 16th in the BCS standings, AP Top 25 and USA Today Coaches' Poll respectively and they are looking to make Snyder 9-0 Saturday under those circumstances while improving their season record to 7-0 in the process. If there is one thing Wildcat fans can count on from Bill Snyder, it is consistency, just check his history.

Freshman offensive lineman BJ Finney makes an impact

Sean Frye
staff writer

It is not too often that a freshman from a little-known town in Kansas can come into Bill Snyder's legendary football program and not only start, but be one of the leaders of the team.

Offensive lineman BJ Finney has proven to be just that. As the starting center, Finney has proven to be one of the most pivotal members of the offense for one of the three remaining undefeated teams in the Big 12.

"He's a center, so you know center is probably the most important position on the line," running back Angelo Pease said. "He's doing a really good job at making his calls and keeping the offensive line on track. It's really impressive considering that he's a freshman. It takes a lot of skill to do that. I'm very impressed with what BJ is doing. BJ is a great guy on and off the field."

Finney comes from Andale, Kan., where he lettered in football for three years as a member of the Andale Indians. He also lettered in wrestling for four years. His wrestling experience, in his opinion, has helped Finney develop into an effective offensive lineman.

"Wrestling obviously helped with football because being a big guy," Finney said. "Being able to be torqued and twisted and being able to move like that helps a lot."

It was former K-State football head coach Ron Prince that initially took notice of Finney in high school. When Snyder took over, Finney's recruitment trickled over. The schools interested in Finney besides

K-State were KU, Marshall, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State, Oregon and Stanford. Ohio and Marshall were the first two schools to make official offers to Finney. It was not until a January visit that Finney decided to come to K-State.

"[K-State] was always really high up on the list," Finney said. "But when they didn't make an offer at first, I started to look at other places. Then they called me back mid-January and wanted me to come up for

nearly dropping a game to Eastern Kentucky, an FCS team, in the first week of the season. However, the K-State offense has drastically improved since then, and Finney is one of the main reasons behind the transformation.

"Being a freshman, it can be intimidating to stand up and be a leader," tight end Travis Tannahill said. "He's one of the hardest working guys on the team. He's improved a lot. He's stepped it up off the field and in the film room and has really just improved."

With an offense that is built around the run, blocking schemes are the most important factor when it comes to how successful the offense can be on a given day.

With Finney playing center, he is in the middle of nearly every play and it is his job to correctly call out the blocks before the play starts.

"He can make or break the whole offensive scheme," Tannahill said. "He's not the biggest guy, but he's one of the toughest guys on our team and that's a characteristic of our team that we really appreciate."

Overall, Finney's work ethic, his calm and confident demeanor, and his ability to lead a team at such a young age have ultimately caught the eye of one the most famous coaches in the country.

"He's identifying defenses and making blocking calls," Snyder said. "He does pretty good at those things. BJ is very conscientious. He pays attention, does everything that you ask of him, and for a freshman has stepped up in a leadership role. He's a good guy."

"He's one of the hardest working guys on the team. He's improved a lot.

Travis Tannahill
tight end

a visit. I came up and had a wonderful time with the starting offensive line and the coaches and I committed on the spot."

Last spring, Finney worked out as the starting center, but was moved to starting right guard for the Wildcats' first game against Eastern Kentucky. In the second half of that game, Snyder decided to put Finney back in at center and he has not moved since.

One of the biggest things in favor of Finney is his ability to improve. The entire offense instilled a cloud of fear and uncertainty after

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